

Dear E&T Committee clerk Energy & Tech Comm Energy & Tech Comm,

Dear Senator Needleman, Representative Arconti, and members of the Energy and Technology Committee,

Please advance a Green New Deal for Connecticut by supporting Proposed Bill 5002.

As a parent and grandparent, an environmentalist and wildlife enthusiast, I urge this committee to support all efforts for a Green New Deal in Connecticut!! Our planet is in crisis because of climate change. Connecticut's coastal cities are already feeling the effects.

Wildlife which depends on the coast and its habitats are having difficulty nesting because of rising water levels. We need to quickly transition to clean renewable energy sources and along with that technologies which will provide livable wage jobs for our residents. Connecticut is at a crossroads, and has an opportunity to shape a healthier, more equitable, and more vibrant future for its people.

I ask the Committee to fully draft and support Green New Deal legislation that will achieve this vision by:

- Regaining the confidence of small businesses and saving money for working families by restoring the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds and protecting ratepayer funds from future budget raids.
- Rapidly increasing use of solar and offshore wind and ensuring clean energy's benefits are accessible for low and middle income families.
- Upgrading coastal infrastructure to prepare for storms and sea level rise, including use of marshes, dunes, and rain gardens to prevent flooding and buffer waves.
- Making it easier for residents and businesses to adopt zero-emission vehicles, and investing in Connecticut's bus and rail systems.
- Generating high-quality employment for tens of thousands of Connecticut residents through a solar jobs training program, infrastructure investments, and community workforce agreements to hire from disadvantaged communities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Beverly Proben
185 Crocker Ct Orange, CT 06477-3026
bproben@gmail.com